

may present structures and actions via voice synthesis over a telephone line connection to system 100. The embodiments described have been presented for purposes of illustration and are not intended to be exhaustive or limiting, and many variations and modifications are possible in light of the foregoing teaching. The system is limited only by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-based system for detecting structures in data and performing actions on detected structures, comprising:

- an input device for receiving data;
- an output device for presenting the data;
- a memory storing information including program routines including
 - an analyzer server for detecting structures in the data, and for linking actions to the detected structures;
 - a user interface enabling the selection of a detected structure and a linked action; and
 - an action processor for performing the selected action linked to the selected structure; and

a processing unit coupled to the input device, the output device, and the memory for controlling the execution of the program routines.

2. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the analyzer server stores detected structures in the memory.

3. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the input device receives the data from an application running concurrently, and wherein the program routines stored in memory further comprise an application program interface for communicating with the application.

4. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the analyzer server includes grammars and a parser for detecting structures in the data.

5. The system recited in claim 4, wherein the analyzer server includes actions associated with each of the grammars, and wherein the analyzer server links to a detected structure the actions associated with the grammar which detects that structure.

6. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the analyzer server includes a string library and a fast string search function for detecting string structures in the data.

7. The system recited in claim 6, wherein the analyzer server includes actions associated with each of the strings, and wherein the analyzer server links to a detected structure the actions associated with the grammar which detects that string structure.

8. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the user interface highlights detected structures.

9. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the user interface enables selection of an action by causing the output device to display a pop-up menu of the linked actions.

10. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the programs stored in the memory further comprise an application running concurrently that causes the output device to present the data received by the input device, and an application program interface that provides interrupts and communicates with the application.

11. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the user interface enables the selection of a detected structure and a linked action using sound activation.

12. The system recited in claim 1, wherein a first one of the actions may invoke a second one of the actions.

13. A program storage medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

- receiving computer data;
- detecting a structure in the data;
- linking at least one action to the detected structure;
- enabling selection of the structure and a linked action; and
- executing the selected action linked to the selected structure.

14. In a computer having a memory storing actions, a system for causing the computer to perform an action on a structure identified in computer data, comprising:

- means for receiving computer data;
- means for detecting a structure in the data;
- means for linking at least one action to the detected structure;
- means for selecting the structure and a linked action; and
- means for executing the selected action linked to the selected structure.

15. In a computer having a memory storing actions, a method for causing the computer to perform an action on a structure identified in computer data, comprising the steps of:

- receiving computer data;
- detecting a structure in the data;
- linking at least one action to the detected structure;
- enabling selection of the structure and a linked action; and
- executing the selected action linked to the selected structure.

16. The method recited in claim 15, wherein the computer data is received from the application running concurrently.

17. The method recited in claim 15, wherein the memory contains grammars, and wherein the step of detecting a structure further comprises the steps of retrieving a grammar and parsing the data based on the grammar.

18. The method recited in claim 17, wherein the grammar is associated with a particular action, and wherein the step of linking at least one action to the detected structure includes the step of linking the particular action to the detected structure.

19. The method recited in claim 15, wherein the memory contains strings, and wherein the step of detecting a structure further comprises the steps of retrieving a string from the memory and scanning the data to identify the string.

20. The method recited in claim 15, further comprising after the step of detecting a structure, the step of highlighting the detected structure.

21. The method recited in claim 15, further comprising, after the step of linking at least one action to the detected structure, the step of displaying and enabling selection of an action for performance on the detected structure.

22. A computer-based method for causing a computer to identify, select and perform an action on a structure in computer data received from a concurrently running application, said application presenting the computer data to the user, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving computer data from the application;
- detecting a structure in the computer data;
- linking at least one action to the detected structure;